

Seabird Monitoring in Remote Alaska

Location: Buldir Island, in the Aleutian Islands, is part of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge. More than 3 million seabirds nest on Buldir, making it one of the largest and most diverse seabird colonies in Alaska. Living conditions are primitive and the weather is usually cold and wet.

Project: On-going program monitoring breeding chronology, reproductive success, population changes, adult survival, and food habits of up to 15 species of seabirds (including storm-petrels, cormorants, kittiwakes, murre, pigeon guillemots, auklets, and puffins). Also assist with off-road point-count surveys of neotropical migrants, keep daily bird lists, and record incidental sightings of marine mammals and breeding raptors and shorebirds.

When: Early-mid May to late August

Commitment: Full-time, some workdays are long as data collection pertains to diurnal and nocturnal bird activities. Only applicants that are available for the entire period (early May to late August) should apply, as transport to and from the island is via a research vessel with a fixed schedule.

Skills: 1. Able and willing to manually examine cold, wet nesting burrows on a prolonged basis. 2. Able to accurately collect and record data. 3. Able to get along well with others in a remote field camp. 4. Able to tolerate adverse weather conditions and spartan living conditions. 5. Able to engage in moderately demanding physical activities (including potentially acrophobic conditions). 6. Operation and basic maintenance of motorized inflatable boats is desirable. 7. Ornithological background helpful. Appropriate safety training and gear is provided.

Logistics: Round-trip transportation within the USA will be provided. All food and housing are also provided. In addition, you will receive a \$3/day stipend while you are in the field.

Equipment: Field clothes.

Contact: Send resume or CV to Jeff Williams, Alaska Maritime NWR, 95 Sterling Highway, Suite 1, Homer, AK 99603-8021; (907) 226-4612; jeff_williams@fws.gov